

# MISSING PAGE

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State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

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TOP SECRET

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**GENERAL**

1. Embassy Moscow's view of Molotov's shift--US Embassy Moscow expresses the view that the Soviet Government's action in relieving Molotov as Foreign Minister and Mikoyan as Minister of Foreign Trade does not indicate that either has fallen from favor or that their position has changed in the hierarchy of the Party and Government. The Embassy believes that the changes do not foreshadow any fundamental shift in Soviet foreign policy. The Embassy points out that it has been expected for some time that Stalin would eventually retire as Chairman of the Council of Ministers and that Molotov would return to that position (which he held from 1930 to 1941). The Embassy suspects that these shifts may have been designed to sow confusion in the West at this time and in the immediate future.

CIA - CONF

(CIA Comment: CIA concurs in general with Embassy Moscow's analysis.)

2. Denmark wishes to be original signatory of Atlantic Pact--US Ambassador Marvel in Copenhagen has been instructed by the Department of State to inform the Danish Government that the US: (a) expects to be able to communicate the approved text of the Atlantic Pact agreement to Denmark before 12 March; (b) plans a conference in Washington at the end of March for final consideration and signing of the Pact; and (c) prefers that Denmark should become an original signatory.

3 - TS

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Ambassador Marvel reports an increasing desire on the part of Denmark to become an original signatory in order to avoid the interval of waiting between the original signing by the representatives and the subsequent ratification by the individual governments. The Foreign Minister, who considers this period to be "extremely dangerous," believes that the Danish Parliament can probably reach an affirmative decision in time for him to come to Washington for signature during the very last days of March.

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- 1 - NO HARM IN CLASS

THE C.I.A. HAS NO OBJECTION  
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